

Draft

Stranahan Stewardship Committee Meeting

September 15, 2014 Old School House Commons 6:30 pm

Members Attending: Diana Batzel, Jim Brimblecombe, John Domey, Jenny Warshow, Ed Jalbert.

Discussion: First topic of discussion were issues concerning the timber sale. Brett Engstrom and Ed identified and marked the wetlands. Ed did not feel there was any significant loss of timber for sale by the marking. Signoffs still need to be made by the VLT and Conservation Committee. Boundaries on the east side of the sale were unclear and not able to be marked. Adjoining landowner has put up posted signs. Edge of other boundaries are marked with three stripes on trees. Ed also roughed out skid roads, marked by pink double flags. The one skid road from the parking/landing area will probably become the new trail to Moonfield as the original trail was obliterated by last year's storm. Issues concerning the parking/landing still need to be ironed out with input from logger selected. Liability issues concerning sugaring lines need to be clear. Ed will try to get all necessary information to the Select Board in the next two weeks for sale to move ahead.

Jenny reported that the Earthwalk program was a success. A specially touching thank you circle was performed and all were thankful the town has such a forest.

Robert Dutil and Jenny cut some down trees and got the Thompson Road brush-hogged, as well as a rudimentary repair of the culvert at the beaver dam.

Jim read a letter he received from the USDA that he had not met the criteria to be eligible for funding for damages incurred during storm last year even though he had gotten his lease extended to meet the requirement. The USDA requirement wanted a ten year lease not from the time of the storm but from 2015. Jim asked that the committee recommend his lease be extended to 2025 in order to be eligible for funding. All members voted to approve; Jim recused.

Minutes from 6/18/14 were approved

Actions: Ed will try to gather and send all necessary information regarding timber sale to Select Board. Diana will compose letter for lease recommendation.

Decisions: Recommend to the Select Board to amend Jim Brimblecombe's sugaring lease to 2025.

Next meeting October 20, 2014 @6:30 pm Old School House Commons

Agenda: New business, logging, trails, invasives, flagging boundaries

Prepared by Diana Batzel